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DATE: August 3, 2006	TIME: _____.m. (Minneapolis)
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TO: KRAMER, Nicole R	FAX: 571-273-8300
Art Unit: 3762	TELEPHONE:

MESSAGE

Inventor(s): John C. Vanden Hoek et al.	Examiner: KRAMER, Nicole R
Appln. No.: 10/663,623	Group Art Unit: 3762
Filing Date: Patent Cooperation Treaty	Confirmation No.: 1901
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR APPLYING CARDIAC SUPPORT DEVICE	Customer No.: 25764
	Docket No.: 59013 - 331735

Document attached: Amendment (11 pages)

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PATENT APPLICATION

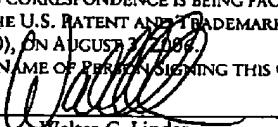
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): John C. Vanden Hoek et al.
Appln. No.: 10/663,623
Filing Date: September 16, 2003
Title: APPARATUS AND
METHOD FOR APPLYING
CARDIAC SUPPORT
DEVICE

Examiner: KRAMER, Nicole R
Group Art Unit: 3762
Confirmation No.: 1901
Customer No.: 25764
Docket No.: 59013 - 331735

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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NO. (571) 273-8300), ON AUGUST 3, 2006.
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Walter C. Linder

AMENDMENT

This communication is responsive to the Office Action mailed on May 3, 2006, and includes the following sections:

1. Introductory Comments, beginning on page 2,
2. Amendments and Listing of Claims, beginning on page 3, and
3. Remarks, beginning on page 10.

No fee is believed to be necessary. Should any fee be required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 06-0029 and notify us of the same.

Appn. No.: 10/663,623
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INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed on May 3, 2006, in which claims 1-24 were pending and claims 19-24 withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1-8 were rejected and claims 9-18 objected to in the Office Action. By this response claim 1 is amended and claim 2 canceled. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1 and 3-18 are requested.